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General File with committee amendments attached. (See AMO200 found on page 565 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. This is a piece of legislation that adds some additional language to current statute. It expands to include wind energy easements with other easements. In Section 66-910, it states "Any property owner may grant a solar skyspace easement" and then we add "or wind energy easement in the same manner and with the same effect as a conveyance of any other interest in real property." We have some definitions that are included, but the essence of what we are doing is creating a voluntary agreement, an agreement between parties who wish to acknowledge the easement and the wind capacity on their land for potential future development of wind conversion units or for monitoring wind, that is a companion to the existing studies that are being done currently in collaboration with utilities and the Department of Energy here in the state. So these easements would be recorded with the register of deeds in the various counties and would then be acknowledged as being there. And it was heard in committee without dissension and was voted out accordingly without dissension, although there was one concern regarding some of the filing of those easements in the counties regarding some of the monitoring systems that, in effect, would not need to be recorded. And I believe that when we deal with the committee amendments, Senator Beutler will talk about the amendment that deals with that. With that, I will yield back the remainder of my opening time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Beutler, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Lieutenant Governor Robak, members of the Legislature, the committee amendments are simply technical amendments. In the one case, they have the effect of allowing property owners to agree to get rid of easements that have been filed in the past, providing that both the owners of the land benefitted and the land burdened are agreeable. And the second one simply makes a distinction between types of easements with respect to the necessity of filing with the register of deeds